

LAMBDA

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LU protestors plead not guilty

BY MATT RABEY

On Nov. 19, eleven members of Sudbury Coalition Against Poverty had their first day in court.

The protestors had been arrested on Nov. 9 for occupying Liberal MP Rick Bartolucci's office.

The eleven were composed of: Danielle Beaulieu, Martin Boucher, Pam Charron, Rob Dey, David Dubois, Anna Harbulik, Gary Kinsman, Clarissa Lassaline, Brendan Lehman, Phil Marsh and Tom Sutton.

Prior to their arrest, the 11 were given the option of choosing to walk or to be arrested, with the 11 electing the later option.

Danielle Beaulieu, a fourth-year Laurentian student, explained why she chose to be arrested. "Civil disobedience has been shown historically to be effective," she said. "It is direct pressure on the provincial government and it is a way that they cannot ignore you like they usually do."

In this instance specifically, Beaulieu said that the arrest was unjust and that it raised questions regarding civil rights and freedoms.

"How is it that a constituency office could claim being private and then us being arrested because of that, when 20 minutes before we arrived the place was public," Beaulieu asked. "Where do you draw the line? Where does a space become public and then become private? That raises really important questions. Mainly our reasoning for pleading not guilty is because we are



Photo by Ryan Neal

Pamela Charron (left) talks outside of the courtroom on Nov. 19, after the 11 protestors pleaded "not guilty."

exercising our charter right of assembly and freedom of expression."

The 11 pleaded not guilty to the charge of trespassing when they appeared in court on Nov. 19.

The media statement released read: "We are pleading not guilty to the charges brought up against us as part of our ongoing fight against the cuts to the Community Start-up and Maintenance Benefit, a

vital housing and maintenance benefit currently available to people of social assistance."

The protestors say they are taking action to prevent the cuts that are scheduled to go through on Jan. 1, 2013.

"What we want is for the cut to not go through," said Beaulieu. "The main goal is to eliminate that cut and I think that it's important not to focus on the arrests, it's important to focus on the amount of people

that are going to be affected by the cut and end up on the street because of it."

The 11 are scheduled to appear in court again on Dec. 17, although Beaulieu said that that is not where people's attention should be directed.

"This is one cut in many that are going to be happening in the next coming years and I think that it's important to start thinking about where do we draw the line. People's rights

are being violated and this cut is huge and it's going to affect a lot of people. So you can get caught up in the arrests or pleading guilty or not guilty, but what really matters is that this is having a serious impact on people's lives."

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Laurentian eyes new 30-year plan

BY KAYLA PERRY

On Nov. 14, Laurentian University hosted its campus master plan kick-off event, beginning a year-long process that aims to develop a plan on how the physical campus of LU should evolve.

When Laurentian opened in 1964, the campus consisted of five main buildings, including the classroom building and science I. Nine years later the campus expanded, adding three more buildings, and then expanded again in 1983. Since 2005, the campus has once again grown, adding the most recent residences and Living with Lakes centre.

Now, forty-eight years after the campus's official opening, admission thinks a new long-term plan must be developed in order for the schools continued expansion. As enrolment rates grow each year, from 1,800 students in 1969 to nearly 9,000 students this year, the campus must also grow.

Chris Mercer, chief of staff at Laurentian, said the campus master plan

will begin by soliciting feedback, not only from shareholders but also from the external community and students of the university.

"We are talking about what the future will look like and what some of the key concepts of development could be," said Mercer. "(The plan) is a big philosophical piece that will create the space within which future development can happen."

The master plan is scheduled to be completed in October 2013, and will be executed over the next 30 years. The plan will deal with things such as transportation on campus (whether it will be inside tunnels or pedestrian sidewalks, what the campus should look like in ten years, etc.)

"This is different from the campus modernization plan, which is focused on immediate changes and how to spend money over the next couple of years" explained Tom Zanya, the chair of the advisory committee to the campus master planning process. "The plan will

determine things such as when a new building is needed, where it will go, and if the physical campus should grow inward and centralized or spread outwards."

The Laurentian campus, which is around 500 acres wide, is widely known for its natural beauty and conservation trails, something that Zanya assures will not be disturbed.

Some objectives of the Master Plan are to align with the overall strategic direction of the university, enhance campus legibility for faculty and for students, and support a range of productive learning environments and respond to the unique ecology and topography of the Sudbury campus, according to administration.

However, one of the main concerns that have been raised around the campus master plan, as outlined on Dominic Giroux's President's Blog, is the idea of an access road being built through campus. "Frankly, our board in 2007 made a decision that (having an access road

through campus) was not necessarily in the best position of the university at that time, that was the official position of the university and that continues to be the position of the university" said Mercer. "We are not actively looking to put a road on campus."

However, Mercer also said that the road controversy is interesting since it is not ultimately the university's decision: "The city in any planning environment can put roads where they want. With that being said, they haven't told us that that will happen. It is a possibility based on what the city decides, but at this point (the university) is certainly not changing the position."

The next campus master plan event, the Design Charrette, will be held in February 2013, and will focus on drafting the major concepts.

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SGA introduces new pub menu

BY LIANNA PISANI

On Nov. 7, the SGA and Aramark introduced a new menu to the Pub Downunder, featuring typical pub-style foods like wings and nachos, to be put to the test.

"It's a soft opening; we'll have a couple of groups come down here and try out the food," says SGA president Andy Rollins. "Anybody who wants to come down and try out the food is more than welcome to, and we want them to. Our big launch—we're going to have specials—is starting in January."

The SGA is looking for input from the Laurentian community, on issues like including more vegetarian options, so that they can better the menu for its January launch.

"This is just a small menu that

Aramark and the SGA created to show the pub food that we want to have. We wanted to obviously have a pub-style menu with deep-fried foods, mozzarella sticks, stuff like that. Once January comes, we want to make sure that we have food for any student that will want to come down here."

The SGA hopes that the new menu will attract more students to the pub, which Rollins feels is a great student space which is currently underused both as a restaurant and study area.

"Our main thing is that we wanted to have affordable food, and we wanted to have food that people couldn't get in the Great Hall or Alumni Hall," Rollins comments. "It's a more intimate place down here; you could come down with your friends,

sit down and have more of a restaurant feel than a cafeteria feel."

The project has been in the works since late August when the SGA first approached Aramark.

It was too late for a September launch, Rollins says, so the time before fall reading week was spent getting organized and planning what students want and need from the pub.

In order for the operation to run smoothly, the SGA and Aramark together hired an additional employee, paying half of the wages each. Rollins says that the SGA and Aramark had complete equal roles in the planning of this project.

"We negotiated with them the entire menu. We were very adamant that we wanted it to be

100 per cent for the students, not for Aramark. So everything from prices, to the food that we're offering—we had a hand in it and they were very accommodating to what we wanted."

Though the SGA may extend the hours, food from the new menu will be served from 12 to 6, and after 6, food from the Res Express menu will be served.

LU student Heather Harris was one of the first to try out the new menu with her friends, ordering the Munchie Platter of battered chicken wings, deep fried cucumber, carrots, celery, pub chips, stuffed potato skins, onion rings, and both ranch and sour cream dips.

"It was definitely true to pub food because much of it was deep-fried but it was very tasty," says Harris. "It was also nice to

have a little bit of vegetables to even out the grease you were eating."

The Munchie Platter was a great value for the price, Harris adds: "You had a variety in the platter and it is big enough to share with four people, including three hungry guys. It definitely gives different options for the Laurentian community other than the Great Hall."

The new pub menu also offers LU's signature Voyageur burger on a pretzel bun, with fries on the side, for \$6. The SGA tried to keep prices competitive with other food establishments in the city.

Rollins says: "We wanted to give students the best bang for their buck."

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Dealing with inherent stereotypes

LAMBDA STAFF

As a student, we are all stereotyped.

We are stupid, rowdy, easily-influenced and incapable of having any logical sense.

People who are older are smarter, in-tune with what is proper, and they see things much clearer than we do.

It's an age-thing, or maybe a mind-thing, but what we do now we will definitely look back on and laugh at with each other someday, down the line.

OK. I'm running out of other student stereotypes (although there are probably hundreds, these ones will have to do).

The point is, we are in it together.

We are all stereo-typed. All of us share the universal tag of being students, but some of us are stereotyped for our race, religion, political leanings, sexual orientation or hobbies as well.

We've inherited (and helped create) an unforgivable, unintelligible world culture.

We jump on people of different political stripes and wish to crucify

anyone who speaks against any piece of anything we believe in.

We profess to fight for change and to celebrate the unique or different, and then we turn around and witch-hunt any idea we don't presently agree with.

Two weeks ago, in this very space, Lambda columnist and news editor Ed Veilleux wrote out (think "spoke out" in writing) against a protest. Not against the message of the protest, but against the form that the social message had taken on.

Some people were upset by that editorial, but there were those in priase of it, as well... As is usual with controversial topics.

There is a bigger picture to look at here, and one that is beyond stereotypes.

All of us are students, again. And we are stereotyped.

One wonders why we are not stereotyped for having excellent critical-thinking skills or our ability to show solidarity for all of our fellow students (even those who disagree with us)... Not just the ones wearing red squares.

It's admirable to go about fighting for change.

And, we all know, universities are a breeding grounds for social activism. They have always been and always will be, don't kid yourself.

We can make any claim we want about general apathy among our generation. And it is there, absolutely. However, there are a small number of students willing to fight (and get arrested) for what they believe in.

Whether it's the CFS telling students what they should be outraged about, or professors, no one can fault critical thought or students being socially-engaged (if only everyone was, or a majority, one must think we would have far less social inequity, at least).

The problem though, as before, is stereotypes.

If social groups want to bring large change, they need to destroy any divides with their common students. When an average student sees an activist getting arrested, their first thought isn't about heroism, it's about radicalism.

And selling radicalism (with the exception of Che Guevara posters)

will never work.

I know there is the counter-argument, "Well, maybe we don't want to appeal to the masses."

That is understandable, from an ideological standpoint.

Perhaps they are, as Gandhi put it to Charles Petrasch in London, "making the revolution for them."

The Finns started much of the union activity in northern Ontario, whether in regards to lumber workers or mining, and they were sure to recruit non-Finns along the way.

Perhaps the student movement at Laurentian could have such comparisons. Surely, they seem to be searching for equality and lower tuition rates, at least. And those are two principles all students should want.

If anyone seeks true solidarity with their fellow students, there are receptive ears everywhere, and ways to spread the message.

Otherwise, they may find themselves Between a Rock and a Hard Place, and in for a struggle of being under-appreciated and misunderstood.



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Sunrise ceremony to welcome LU School of Architecture

BY KAYLA PERRY

Just before daybreak on Nov. 23, roughly one hundred Sudburians gathered in Market Square for a sunrise ceremony, performed by the Ojibwe tribe to welcome the new LU School of Architecture.

The school, which will be constructed in the old Market Square, rests on a historically important spot for the Atikmekshing Anishnawbek First Nations.

"We are honouring the land in which the school will be built on" said Brad Robinson, Laurentian Alumni and Nation of the Tens tribe member.

The land in market square is considered N'Swakamok land, where the three traditional paths of the native people have crossed. "The sunrise ceremony will help bring in the positive feelings and vibes that (the architecture school) will have within the community" said Robinson.

A Steering Committee was formed in the community

to help shape ideas behind the architecture school, and maintain the respect of the Aboriginal peoples. The sunrise ceremony was a part of maintaining this respect; Chief Miller from Whitefish Lake First Nations explained that the land was once where the first nation's people lit fires.

The ceremony involved Native drumming and singing, as well as the lighting of a small fire and a pipe.

A member of the First Nations also performed a Smudge ceremony, which involved the lighting of tobacco. It is a "spiritual cleansing – the smoke is a sign that is sent to the spirit world. Once the smoke disappears, it is said that the spirits can see it and will come to this area" said Miller.

"We have now said thank you to the land – the land that we share, that this institute will be built on, will bring many good things."



Photo by Ryan Neal

A drum is pictured above, from the sunrise ceremony.

The School of Architecture is expected to officially open to students in September 2013, and will have around 400 students and 32 faculty and staff members. The older building that stands in Market

Square is scheduled to be modernized within the next year, as well as the second story of one of the buildings just outside of Market Square.

The new school is expected to generate a direct economic

impact of \$40 million upon start-up, and in a steady-state, \$15 million a year.

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Classified lights up the stage... literally

BY WILLIE POLL

On Nov. 24, the great hall transformed into a stage, welcoming a live performance by the Canadian rap artist, Classified. The SGA sold tickets to Laurentian students for \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door. DJ IV opened for Classified with a variety of old and new hip hop beats. Classified was not alone in performing but worked alongside a full band including a guitarist, drummer, and a second vocalist.

"It was just a live show, and

for once the sound quality was amazing." Mohnish Ramdonee, a Laurentian student, said. "The best part of the concert was when I touched his tattoo, that's how close I was. I fucking loved it."

According to some, Classified can be known as a performer who loves his fans, he showed his love for Laurentian handing out two buckets of free beer to the 19 plus section of the crowd. Lastly, he ended his performance by allowing audience members to join him on stage.

"I think what really set him apart was that he cared about his fans," Rachel Weir, a Laurentian student, said. "When he handed out the beer it was hilarious, but then he let a ton of people just come up on stage with him, it was something I'd never seen anyone do before."

Classified also allowed an audience member who knew the lyrics to join him on stage for a song, later rewarding her with a bottle of beer.

"I'm such a fan," Ali Highet, a Laurentian student. Said. "But

Classified really over did himself on the crowd involvement tonight, the concert was unreal."

During mid show, while doing a song about marijuana, Classified and his band began to smoke.

"I couldn't believe they smoked a joint on stage," Weir said. "Literally at least 20 people waited for him after the show to ask him if he would smoke up with them, I have no idea if he did or not, but it was a one of a kind show, for sure."

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LU administration looks to modernize campus

BY MATT RABEY

The Campus Modernization Plan is a strategy being developed by Laurentian University's administration, in joint co-operation with the student body, to improve and modernize Laurentian's campus in the upcoming years.

"It's a 35 million dollar project that will be financed over 20 years," said Carol McAulay, Laurentian's VP Administration.

The funds will not be coming directly out of the operations budget, explained McAulay, instead: "we'll borrow the funds and then we'll repay them through the operating budget over the next 20 years. We're not taking our 110 million dollar budget and carving out 35 million for this year."

The project will see "about 25 million that will actually be in bricks and mortar changes and

the rest is in permits and design," explained McAulay, "so, about 25 million dollars will upgrade public spaces on campus with a focus on teaching spaces and social spaces."

Laurentian University's campus has never seen a renovation on the scale of the one that is currently in the works. While the campus has seen new buildings erected, little has been done to upgrade the existing structures.

"We haven't done a major modernization of this campus since it was created," said McAulay, "we've built new building, but not a real look at classroom spaces and modernizing them. It's important because our student body is different, students learn differently, professors teach differently, so that's why we're focusing on teaching spaces and social spaces."

To undertake this project, Laurentian University has appointed Diamond Schmitt Architects as the project consultants.

"Our work is to look at all the space on campus and how it's utilized," said McAulay, "if it's a teaching space, is it modern? Is it appropriate for today's teaching styles and today's learning styles? [We need to] identify where we need to upgrade, where we need to create a front door, where we need to create social spaces and what those social spaces might be."

Some of the target areas already identified include: the creation of a front door/welcoming centre, classroom upgrades and social spaces for students as well as areas where staff and faculty can interact.

One of the specific areas that is targeted by the project is

the student centre as McAulay explained, "We have had some discussions with the SGA about building an independent student centre, something near the front door that would serve student needs, but also would be identified as a student centre. We are more than interested in if there are additional spaces that want to be built for students, like the student centre."

The Campus Modernization Plan is still in the development

phase, which will be concluded by next June.

"It's a big project and a really tight timeline," said McAulay, "because we need to take the design to the Board of Governors for approval by June of next year so that we start the modernization, that would be starting sometime early in 2014."

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STC producing Bunch of Munsch

BY RYEN VELDHUIS

The Sudbury Theatre Centre will be unwrapping the holiday season with its third production this season, Bunch of Munsch. Adapted by David Savoy, this production will include 14 of Canadian children's author, Robert Munsch's stories as well as six original songs created for the production by composer and musician Randy Vancourt.

Bunch of Munsch will follow four children, played by Lili Conner, Adam Proulx, Iain Stewart and Stephanie Wilson waiting impatiently by the tree on Christmas Eve and decide to pass the time and have some fun by telling and performing stories such as Angela's Airplane, Mortimer, Mud Puddle, Thomas's Snowsuit, Fire Station, Fifty Below Zero, The Paper Bag Princess and more.

Bunch of Munsch will be playing weekends only from Nov 30 to Dec 16 with evening shows at 7 p.m. and matinees at 2 p.m.. Family packs of four tickets will be \$74.20 with individual student and child tickets being \$20.76, seniors at \$31.51 and adults \$36.76. Rush tickets for adults and seniors are \$26.26. And there will be a pay-what-you-can matinee at 2 p.m. Dec 2.

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Laurentian celebrates International Education Week

BY MATT RABEY

From Nov. 12 to 16, Laurentian University participated with more than 100 other universities around the world in celebrating International Education Week (IEW).

According to the IEW-SEI, IEW objective's are to: "underscore the value that Canadians place on connecting with the world through studying abroad, internationalized curricula, and international service, and on opening the world to Canada by welcoming international elementary, secondary, and postsecondary students, promoting international exchanges, and encouraging qualified foreign students to make Canada their new home."

To promote IEW, Laurentian University had various events put on in the Great Hall, starting with international students dancing to Gangnam Style at the official launch of IEW.

IEW continued with highlights that included: Spirit of the World Drum Circle, Culture Fest, the Study Abroad Exhibit and Hockey Night in Sudbury.

The Spirit of the World Drum Circle saw Jeff Stewart come to

the Great Hall to show students how to play songs from around the world on the drums.

The event was a success as Lisa Lefebvre, an IEW organizer, said: "It was so awesome. He brings different instruments from different countries and then different international students get together and then he gets them to make music. It sounds really good."

Culture Fest followed up Spirit of the World on Nov. 14 with exhibits from various international students in the Great Hall with the Chinese, Saudi Arabian and Brazilian students putting on the main exhibits.

The Chinese students exhibit featured food, tea as well as a Chinese student that would write your name in Chinese to be sent to your email.

The Brazilian exhibit has students dressed up in traditional clothing, Brazilian money, Ervamate Chimarrão tea, videos featuring Brazilian dancing and pictures of Brazil.

The Saudi Arabian exhibit had students in traditional dress, Saudi money, pictures of Saudi Arabia and Saudi coffee and tea



Photo by Ryan Neal

International students dance to Psy's Gangnam Style in the Great Hall.

for students to try.

"The main goal of today," said Lefebvre, "is to bring awareness to the Laurentian campus about the international student presence here."

Laurentian University has a very internationally diverse body of international students with over 700 attending from around the world from 64 different countries.

On Nov. 15, the International

Students office put on a display outside of the Great Hall where international students were available to talk about their experiences as international students.

The week concluded on Nov. 16, with a traditional Canadian experience for international students to try, a Sudbury Wolves game.

The students who took part in IEW were happy to share their

culture with others and learn about Canadian culture.

Coralie Deffains a fourth year language major from Rennes France said, "It's really interesting to discover the differences between France and Canada in terms of culture or education. I think this is something that nobody can regret even if you are in Sudbury," she joked. "It's a great experience."

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LU hosts annual Mental Health Awareness week

BY MATT RABEY

The Laurentian Residence, Health Services and the Laurentian Accessibility department put mental Health Awareness Week on every year to provide information and promote student wellbeing.

This year's awareness was from Nov. 12-16 and some new twists as pilot projects were introduced.

The week features several presentations, information booths, a motivational speaker and the Grub Crawl Stress Reliever.

The new projects were two separate presentations by counsellor Marc Trottier on anxiety and sleep problems.

The anxiety presentation was held in W 130 at 5:30 p.m. and ran for a half hour.

Trottier began by telling the students that the presentation is not just for people who have anxiety, but also for those looking to prevent getting anxiety in the future.

Trottier then told students about how stress and anxiety are normal responses to situations that induce such symptoms, yet the symptoms themselves will differ from person to person.

Trottier then went through helpful tips to combat anxiety such as: review the stressful situations, say no to the things you don't want to do, take a rational approach to negative thoughts, distract yourself positively, confront your problems learn how to relax, determine if your problems are solvable or not and be aware of how others affect you.

The next pilot presentation on sleep problems was held on Nov. 15 in W 130 at 4 p.m.

"I was really excited to see that counselling services decided to put on a presentation for sleep problems," said Samantha Puchala third year double major in Études Françaises and Science Politique,

"because I know that a lot of students are struggling with issues surrounding sleep. Personally I used the counselling services to establish healthy sleeping habits. I had gone from barely any sleep throughout the weeks I suffered severe insomnia for many many years and after implementing some of the strategies that we saw here today I am now sleeping pretty regularly. The tips are very helpful and I recommend that all students look into them."

Trottier started the presentation by saying how a good night's rest is essential to being able to function properly as well as being an effective means of fighting off stress and anxiety.

Some of the tips that were talked about by Trottier included: setting a regular bedtime, wake up at the same time every day, take a short nap if needed during the day, discover your optimal sleep schedule, increase your exposure to sunlight, make

your room sleep "friendly" (ex. quiet, cozy, etc.), eating healthy and regular exercise.

To finish off Mental Health week, a presentation on the real truth of alcohol was held in W 130 and was presented by Brenda Stankiewicz, PHN, Health

Promotion Division, Sudbury District Health Unit.

Stankiewicz spoke about the dangers of alcohol consumption such as: increase in the chance of hypertension, increase in the chance of getting cancer and because of how much sugar is in alcohol, the increase in the chance of diabetes.

If you require any more information or need to speak to a counsellor, the counselling office is located in the hallways between the residences or contact counselling at supprtprograms@laurentian.ca.

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Lambda recommends...

Songs. Several of our staff have listed three songs that everyone should listen to. We figured this was an interesting way to show who we are behind the desk, and to share music (we can always use more music, right?).

Ron Guillet (editor)

Avenged Sevenfold - "M.I.A."
Protest The Hero - "Turn Soonest to the Sea"
Trivium - "Throes of Perdition"

Lianna Pisani (staff writer)

"Cosmic Love" by Florence and the Machine
"Little Bit" by Lykke Li
"Commonwealth" by Cara Salimando

Ryan Neal (staff photographer)

Mac Miller - "Class President"
Wiz Khalifa Feat. The Weeknd - "Make Me Remember You"
Casa De Britt Feat. Porco

Matt Rabey (staff writer)

lee curtis - "body twitch" [visionquest]
julio bashmore- "au seve" [broadwalk records ltd]
barnt - "geffen" [comeme]

Ed Veilleux (news editor)

"Promises" by Nero (Skrillex remix)
"Crave You" (Adventure Club dubstep remix)
"Born to Die" by Lana Del Ray

Kayla Perry (staff writer)

"Believe" by The Bravery
"Girl on Fire" by Alicia Keys
"Truly Madly Deeply" by Savage Garden

LU students bench press for charity

BY KAYLA PERRY

Laurentian gym enthusiasts gathered on Nov. 24 in the varsity gym to raise money for the LU food bank.

With four different men's weight classes and a buy in of five dollars and a non-perishable item for the food bank, organizers say they were pleased with the turnout.

Cal McGibbon, who works for Healthy Living in conjunction with LU, was responsible for organizing the event.

"Today is just about raising money and food, and to get people excited about exercising," he said. "We want to continue to promote more and more of the healthy lifestyle on campus."

Athletes at the competition were able to pick the weights they could

lift, within their respective weight classes, and increase until failure. Prizes were given to the winner of each weight class, and included Click protein drinks, water bottles, and assorted t-shirts. "Ken from New Sudbury Training Centre donated all the prizes for this event" explained McGibbon "so we would like to say thank you to him."

The bench press, which was the first type of fitness-fundraiser at LU, was picked because it seems popular on campus, McGibbon explained.

If the event is deemed a success, McGibbon hopes to organize fundraisers of this nature at least once every term, with a different competition each term: "This time is bench press, next we could do pull ups or cardio competitions" McGibbon said.



Photo by Ryan Neal

Participants of the bench press competition look on as one participant gets ready to lift.

Approximately 20 male students competed, as well as four females. Paul Proulxbegin, a first-year Health Promotion student at Laurentian, competed

in the bench press. "I'm glad (the Healthy Living organization) is doing something like this at LU because it gets everyone involved and gets

everybody together," said Proulxbegin. "Everybody is having a blast."

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Atwood celebrates birthday with LU

BY LIANNA PISANI

Within the rock of the Vale cavern at Science North, about a hundred guests gathered on Tuesday, Nov. 13, to celebrate Margaret Atwood's 73rd birthday with Laurentian University.

It marked the eighth annual birthday celebration Laurentian has held for this acclaimed Canadian author, an initiative which began thanks to the ideas of professors Dr. Shannon Hengen and Dr. Susan Glover.

"It's a very interesting initiative on the part of the university because they always use it for a fundraiser," says Atwood. "I think if it were just my birthday it would be kind of peculiar. I'm happy to help with their initiatives."

Each year, proceeds from the event support a charitable project; this year, funds will support the building of an Indigenous Sharing and Learning Centre, which is an

element of Laurentian's plans to be completed by 2017. Atwood explains that she in consulted when the university selects a project to support, and has never said no to a presented idea.

The birthday celebration also featured special guests from Manitoulin Island. The Waabishki Mkwaa (White Bear) Singers performed a number of musical selections after dinner. The Debajehmujig Storytellers of Wikwemikong also joined the group, and presented an original film dedicated to Margaret Atwood, entitled, "My Cousin's Cousin's Cousin, Margaret Atwood."

"I thought it was extremely funny," Atwood comments. "There are a couple of sections that would make very good YouTube things, and I think would be pretty popular because there's nothing like it."

In the film, characters founded an Atwood society, and

one young woman proceeded to transport Atwood (via photograph) throughout cities in Europe.

"They were on tour; they were going to Aboriginal festivals," says Atwood in response to her pretend-travels. "One of them was in Glasgow and one of them was in Amsterdam. So that explains it. They were there anyway. They didn't travel there especially just to take a photograph of me."

Atwood gave her own performance after the presentations, reading from new work she has posted on the story-sharing website, Wattpad. The first piece she read was her poem, "Update on Werewolves," and the second was a chapter from her collaboration with author Naomi Alderman, *The Happy Zombie Sunrise Home*. She also read from an upcoming, unreleased work.

"I've written about werewolves for a long time,"

Atwood says. "The study of the gothic, critically, in the nineteenth century is just something I know, and I've been doing it for a long time. The curiosity about zombies is simply: Why zombies now? There are pretty interesting answers to that."

Atwood explains that zombies are monsters of difficult socioeconomic times.

"In times of affluence, vampires are popular—the fancy outfits, they're always aristocrats," Atwood said. "They're smart; they're rich. In harder times, zombies are very egalitarian. If you're a zombie, it's kind of like the dance of death and Medieval Times: everybody gets to be one."

The other aspect that makes zombies pertinent for our times, according to Atwood, is that they are the stars of "survival" stories. Personally, Atwood enjoys the original 1968 *Night of the Living Dead* because it

marks the point where zombies became the creature as we know them today, including the infectious disease component.

According to Atwood, there is no need to worry about zombies in real life. Vicious plagues, however, are a different story.

"There's not going to be a zombie apocalypse," Atwood assured. "The closest thing you're going to get to that would be a pandemic disease of some kind. You get the apocalyptic effects without having actual dead people come back to life, which they don't in real life do."

Nonetheless, you can read about Atwood and Alderman's visions of the zombie apocalypse on Wattpad; new chapters are released each Wednesday. lambda@laurentian.ca

Jacobovici introduced as Huntington adjacent professor

BY WILLIE POLL

On Monday, Nov. 12, Huntington University introduced their new adjacent professor, Simcha Jacobovici, a world-renowned Israeli-Canadian archeologist.

Jacobovici flew into Sudbury to meet the Huntington faculty and to show his documentary, "The Resurrection Tomb/The Jesus Discovery" to the public at Rainbow Cinemas. The documentary focused on Jacobovici's findings in Israel, where he found some of the earliest Christian tombs, possibly even Jesus' tomb. Jacobovici said there were around 170 people in attendance,

but the cinema only prepared for 100, so they had to switch theatres.

"I thought the presentation was excellent," Kevin McCormick, president of Huntington, said. "I thought the turnout was amazing. Simcha is a great person who brings different perspectives both with respect to the area he's researching at the time but also the techniques he uses which are very transferable. He's an amazing speaker and also a great documentarian. For me, it was excellent."

The documentary depicts many challenges such as using a robotic arm to see the tomb, as they could not enter

it due to controversy about disturbing the dead.

"They are universal themes," McCormick said. "Many cultures and many countries have issues around whether you can disrupt a cemetery even or burial place."

The robotic arm had to fit through a small opening in a building floor to avoid disturbing the tomb.

"When you walk down a hall, you never think that under a tile there could be something," McCormick said. "This was one of the surreal images that sticks out in my head."

Huntington is also planning an

archeological opportunity for students, which they hope to begin this May. The dig involves bringing a select group of students into Israel to help on a real archeological dig supervised by Jacobovici. According to Jacobovici, the program will endure approximately three weeks, and the students will stay in camps on site. There will also be an academia component with nightly lectures.

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Terrance Galvin is Havok



BY ED VILLEUX

As the first leader of the brand-new Uncanny Avengers, Havok will have his work cut out for him in an uncharted, new initiative.

Terrance Galvin can relate to that feeling.

Having been selected as the Laurentian School of Architecture's first director, Galvin will be pioneering the school towards its future.

As part of a larger plan, the school is a new hope for many in the downtown community as the concept of revitalizing

downtown has been an ongoing campaign for years.

In much the same way, Havok will be serving as the first leader of a first Avengers-linked X-Men team, under the watchful eye of Captain America.

With both Galvin and Havok's resume, both selections are logical choices.

Though, one can hope Galvin won't have any super-powered threats to contend with in his duties.

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Illustrations provided by Marvel Comics

Havok, often in and out of the X-universe contingent, has often played an important leadership role within the Marvel community, as he will do in charge of the Uncanny Avengers.



Sudbury's Street Style Blogger

BY LIANNA PISANI

Street style blogging is a type of fashion blogging that involves capturing photos of individuals literally walking down the street (or sometimes at an event) and commenting on his or her style. Usually, this type of blogging occurs in larger cities, where there are hundreds of thousands of people to profile. Laurentian student, Yvonne Ben, decided to bring this blogging trend to Sudbury with her blog, The Kaleidoscopian.

"I started the Sudbury Street Style project about a month ago. I really like people's outfits, and since I can't buy it, I take pictures. I go around asking people; some people are happy about it, and some people say 'no.' A lot of people like the idea of Sudbury Street Style because people haven't really done it before," says Ben about her blog.

Ben chooses who to profile based on her own style tastes. She is usually attracted to bright, fun colours, African prints, blazers, and unique accessories reminiscent of her heritage.

"I mostly take pictures at Laurentian, or if I see someone

on the street," says Ben. "I like something that stands out—like colours. If I see a really nice statement shoe, or a statement piece necklace, I'm really into that, too. Anything that really stands out and catches my eye."

Ben calls her own style of dress very "eccentric." Some of her favourite designers are Todun Designs and Andrea Iyamah. She has also designed her own clothes, including an African-print blazer that has become a staple in her closet.

"I don't know how to use a

sewing machine, so I design stuff and have people make them for me. Most times my mom sends them all the way back home [to Nigeria]," explains Ben.

Since Ben is a biomedical biology student, she uses her blog and designs as a creative outlet.

"With the designing, it's more or less during the summer that I do it. Doing this gives me this drive, because then I can say, 'I'm going to put this in this slot, and do this right now,'" says Ben.

Photo supplied

Sudbury Street Style blogger Yvonne Ben poses in the street.



thekaleidoscopian.com to enter.

In the words of Yvonne Ben, "One man's weird is another man's swag."

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Campus radio station gets makeover

BY WILLIE POLL

Throughout the summer months CKLU, Laurentian's on-campus radio station began working on a new website.

The project incorporated Sean Grant as the website designer, who teaches graphic design at Cambrian college, and also sits on the board. CKLU's new website, according to Carrie Graham, CKLU's general manager, is a fresh look, with much more accessibility and information.

The website officially launched in November of this year.

"The old website was really hard to navigate," Graham said. "It was dated,

and we just wanted something fresh. The new website is really accessible and the whole point is to be able to go and find out anything you want to know about the station, it's all there."

Graham and the CKLU team have hopes that the new website will draw more attention to CKLU, and in turn, bring in more volunteers and community involvement.

The big thing that we did with the station is the whole rebranding," Graham said. "We want people to know about it, and that's part of the website."

CKLU also is planning for a more involved year at Laurentian and new projects.

"We did some projects on promoting shows and we hope to do more of that," Graham said. "When we get more people coming in through the door and being more involved with the station that's when we can start doing some bigger projects and being more present in the university and Sudbury in general."

The new website not only promotes involvement in a more organized fashion, but it also incorporates more information.

"It includes volunteer forms, what show you're listening to, the schedule is up-to-date and it's really easy to read and understand," Graham said. "The

whole point is just to be able to go and see all the information. There is a lot of information about the station like our history and what we have to abide by, so you kind of have to lay that out in a way that's easy to understand rather than a bunch of information just thrown at you."

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Zeeman wins overall gold at U-23 Canadian Rowing Championships

BY RON GUILLET

Carling Zeeman proved her world-class talent last summer with a bronze medal in the World Rowing Under-23 Championships, but the single sculler has an insatiable appetite for hardware and placed atop the country by taking home the overall gold on Nov. 11 at the Canadian Rowing Championships.

The outdoor adventure leadership student is in her final year and has paved a path in the upper echelons of Laurentian Athletics. Her latest accomplishment, the overall gold, is among the highlights of her career thus far.

"This win ranks somewhere close to the first race I ever won, cross country in Grade 3," Zeeman said. "In all seriousness, this introduction gave me a taste of racing, and winning, and ever since I've felt compelled to satiate this thirst for competition. Throughout the years, I've learned to take pride in all my performances, and this win is just one of greater magnitude of which I can be proud."

Zeeman invested hard work and dedication to reach her current level, and the results are a testament to the fact.

"There is a great deal of training and preparation that every athlete does before he or she comes to a competition," Zeeman said. "The race that fans see and hear about is just the final product. Making it to the competition and winning gold are just affirmations of hard work and preparation."

So what's next for the Laurentian rower?



Photo supplied by Laurentian Athletics

Carling Zeeman added to her trophy case with an overall gold on Nov. 11.

"Next on the horizon is preparing for winter training," Zeeman said. "This involves physical and mental preparation, as the adjustment from rowing on the water to other types of indoor and cross-training is

a large one. I hope to remain focused and in top form as I continue with my rowing career."

Zeeman has received many accolades, but she absorbs every moment and doesn't

look too far ahead in her young career. She said making the Olympics has crossed her mind, but she has "yet to see what is to come."

Zeeman said her family has kept her motivated every step of the way, and with the athletic background the Zeemans possess, it's no surprise. One of her brothers plays on the national volleyball team and was recently named the OUA Volleyball Player of the Year, while another was a member of the national military soccer team. Zeeman's mother is active as well, and still participates in triathlons and joins Carling's training sessions. While her father isn't an athlete, much of the family inherited his 6-foot-6 frame, including the 6-foot-2 Carling.

"My sister Maaïke pushes me to remain positive and looking forward to the future," Zeeman said of her inspiration. "As well, my roommates are really motivational and have kept me grounded."

Zeeman said another source of motivation has been the Laurentian community.

"I am grateful for all the congratulations I have received as I walk through campus," Zeeman said. "And many people, professors and students alike, stop me to ask how my training is going and to offer words of encouragement. Without a strong support system, an athlete has a difficult time staying motivated. For this, I am appreciative of the Laurentian community." ranguillet@gmail.com

Serresse inherits leadership role with Voyageurs

BY RON GUILLET

Georges Serresse's points-per-game average has steadily increased each season.

Now in his fifth and final season, the 22-year-old is having his most productive campaign yet, averaging 16.2 PPG, which ranks him third on the Laurentian Voyageurs and eleventh in the Ontario University Athletics.

The physical and health education student first stepped on the court in Grade 6 and has developed into a key player since.

"I saw that I had a certain set of

skills that came to me naturally, so the combination of that plus the will to keep playing and watching the NBA and street ball got me into the sport," Serresse said.

Voyageurs coach Shawn Swords said Serresse's offensive potency this season has induced headaches to the opposition.

"Georges has really stepped up his game this year," Swords said. "His intensity at both ends has made him a great asset for us. Offensively, he can score from inside and out and makes it very difficult to defend."

With the likes of Mike Hull,

Shavaan Sheldon, Isiah Pasquale and Mark Ramalho departed from last year's squad, Serresse has stepped into a leadership role for the Voyageurs.

"Now that I'm one of the more experienced players on the team it makes it easier for me to lead," Serresse said. "I try to help out the new players by giving them simple advice that I know will help them out. I try to do this on and off the court."

Swords said Serresse has a significant influence on team morale in his new role.

"Georges has been great to work with during this year," Swords said.

"He has had a lasting effect on the Voyageurs. He is always happy and in a good mood which is infectious. He tries his hardest at all times and has led our team in that sense."

Serresse said donning the blue and gold for four seasons has elevated his game to new heights and helped him mature as an individual.

"Coming out of high school I wasn't the person or the basketball player I am today," Serresse said. "After four years of study, practice and team bonding I learned a certain set of morals that help me be the best I can be not only on the court, but

also off the court."

Serresse, who plans on playing overseas once his tenure with Laurentian is over, said the Voyageurs are right on track as they ride a five-game win-streak.

"We're expecting ourselves to do big things this season and postseason," Serresse said. "We would like to end up in one of the top spots or our division at the end of the regular season and then make a big push during playoffs, and from there anything can happen."

Voyageurs off to red-hot start

BY RON GUILLET

The Laurentian Voyageurs finished last season with a .500 record for the first time in over six years, but the team looks to continue that improvement as they sit third in the OUA with a 5-1 record this season.

After returning home with a 1-1 record on the road, the Voyageurs looked to take advantage of a four-game homestand that started on Friday, Nov. 16, against the Windsor Lancers. Alex Ratte led the Voyageurs with 21 points while Georges Serresse and Manny Pasquale also played key roles with 18 and 17 points respectively. Laurentian limited the Lancers' chances in the offensive end and capitalized with quick counter-attacks as they won 80-72.

"We're clearly undersized this year and they're a pretty big team and very athletic," Ratte said of the Lancers. "I think for most of the game we rebounded well. Pushing the ball up and getting back on defense, those were our most important keys."

Ratte said the Voyageurs are focused on improving in the defensive end.

"Scoring should not be an issue with this team, it's just our defense," Ratte said. "Tonight, we showed glimpses of brilliance on the defensive end. This

year, we really care when we get scored on."

On Saturday, Nov. 17, Laurentian looked to continue their strong play in the defensive end against the Western Mustangs. The Voyageurs remained true to their word and stymied much of Mustangs' offensive chances as they entered the third quarter up by 13 points. Western turned up the intensity in the second half of the game and dug into the deficit, but Laurentian held on throughout. Serresse led the Voyageurs that night with 20 points and nine rebounds as they cruised to the 75-65 victory.

Coach Shawn Swords said the fans in the Ben Avery Gymnasium supplied the Voyageurs momentum throughout the game.

"The noise in the gym is why we have one of the best home gyms in the country," Swords said. "Western still outworked us but the fans helped us find the energy to pull out the victory."

Next up were the Waterloo Warriors on Friday, Nov. 23, in what was a physical affair. Both teams had to grind for production and it was the Voyageurs that entered the half up 29-25. Serresse once again led the Voyageurs with 22 points and seven rebounds as they began to distance themselves from

the Warriors in the remaining two quarters. Laurentian took the game by a score of 78-55 and won their fourth game in a row.

On Saturday, Nov. 24, the Voyageurs took on the Laurier Golden Hawks. Laurentian controlled the tempo of the game from the onset and displayed accurate shooting to move ahead. Joshua Budd had the fans on their feet when he connected with a three-point shot from far out that put the Voyageurs up 23-16 in the first quarter. Nelson Yengue was a force as he led both teams with three blocks and put up 20 points and 11 rebounds. Laurentian was once again tight in the defensive end and allowed limited opportunities to the Golden Hawks. Ratte erupted in the second half of the game and was utilized on quick counter-attacks. He finished the game with 31 points, 11 more than the closest player.

The Voyageurs have a pair of away games against the Lakehead Thunderwolves and the Guelph Griffons on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 before returning to play on Jan. 4. ronguillet@gmail.com



File photo

Alex Ratte put up 31 points on Saturday, Nov. 24, against the Laurier Golden Hawks.

Tymchuk brimming with potential for Lady Vees

BY RON GUILLET

Having led the Sacré-Coeur Griffons to back-to-back 'A' NOSSA titles and three trips to the 'A', Emily Tymchuk has the pedigree to make an impact on the Laurentian Lady Vees in her rookie season and beyond.

The 6-foot guard utilized her athleticism to thrive in several sports other than basketball when she attended high school, including volleyball, soccer, track and windmill (baseball). Tymchuk, who finds time to play guitar and knit while off the court, was involved in gymnastics and figure skating when she was younger, but has moved on since.

Her true calling, though, is on the basketball court. Tymchuk started playing basketball in Grade

7 and looked to follow in the footsteps of her father, who played for both the Voyageurs and the Cambrian Golden Shield.

Tymchuk thrives as a physical presence with defensive prowess, assets she hopes to display on the court consistently.

"Our team has a great number of talented scorers and at this point in my career I am focusing on getting stops and rebounds in order to create opportunities to score," Tymchuk said.

Tymchuk has had limited minutes in the Ontario University Athletics but noticed some distinctions to the high school level. Tymchuk has averaged 11 minutes-per-game thus far, but values every second on the court and puts the team ahead of herself.

"There is an enormous difference in the intensity and style of play when comparing high school or club basketball to varsity ball," Tymchuk said. "This being said, I intend to learn as much as I possibly can from the older more experienced players as well as the very knowledgeable coaching staff. I would like to act as a sponge so I can take away as much as I can from everyone around me and apply it to my game in hopes to earn some minutes and give the vets the rest they need and deserve."

Tymchuk credits Justin Brogden, her former coach and mentor, for helping her develop as he emphasized work ethic and mental strength. The Azilda-native values her time at Sacré-Coeur

with the Griffons and believes she's well-equipped to take on the OUA in the coming years.

"At Sacré-Coeur I learned a lot about being a part of a team and what it takes to win," Tymchuk said. "As a team, we were also exposed to a lot of different styles of play as we had a three-peat to OFSAA over my three years there. All of these factors and experiences have contributed to preparing me for a very physically as well as mentally demanding style of play that is required to play OUA basketball."

Tymchuk has coached at the elementary level for four years and intends on getting involved in higher level coaching after her tenure with the Lady Vees, but the 18-year-old wants to absorb as

much as she can while donning the blue and gold.

The concurrent student expects the Lady Vees to compete throughout the season and take the next step in their development as a young team. With a 3-3 record in the standings, the Lady Vees appear to be achieving that goal.

"I expect us to put everything on the line every single game," Tymchuk said. "Realistically we won't win every game we play, but I know we are very capable of competing against higher ranked teams at this level and will surprise people if we put out hearts into it each and every time. We have improved so much already and I expect we will continue to learn and grow as a team."

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Lady Vees show signs of improvement over last season

BY RON GUILLET

The Laurentian Lady Vees opened the first two weeks of the season with a 3-3 record, just a win shy of last year's total.

After going 1-1 on the road, the Lady Vees returned to Laurentian on Friday, Nov. 16, for their home-opener against the Windsor Lancers and the first of a four-game homestand. The Lady Vees were hemmed in their own end for much of the game and couldn't distribute the ball up the court with consistency. The Lancers had five different players that scored double digits, led by Miah-Marie Langlois who scored 18 points. Sasha Polishchuk, who leads the Ontario University Athletics with 22.5 points-per-game, led Laurentian with 26 points, nine assists and three rebounds. The Lady Vees eventually dropped the game after a productive fourth quarter, scoring 25 points, 83-59.

"We played with passion in the fourth quarter which is encouraging but we must be ready to play four quarters throughout the game," Coach Mike Clarke said of the Lady Vees' effort.

Laurentian responded with a balanced display against the Western Mustangs on Saturday, Nov. 17. Polishchuk logged 39 minutes on the

court and put up 38 points and 11 rebounds for the Lady Vees. The LU pot-bangers club stayed true to their name, banging pots behind the opposition bench for the majority of the game. The Lady Vees appeared to channel the energy as they defeat the Mustangs 74-64.

"Western is a strong program and that [the Vees] have been building for a while to knock them off," Clarke said. "We are trying to establish the gym as a tough place to play. Teams are dreading coming here and that is what we are trying to build."

The Lady Vees looked to keep the momentum going as they faced the Waterloo Warriors on Friday, Nov. 23. The Warriors spent the majority of the first quarter in their own end as the Lady Vees enjoyed productive nights from all their top players. The Lady Vees dominated the first quarter with a 20-6 lead and never looked back as they claimed the 80-52 victory. Polishchuk once again led the Lady Vees with 20 points while Erin Simpson and Emma Decloe rounded out the scoring with 15 and 13 points respectively.

On Saturday, Nov. 24, the Lady Vees took on the Laurier Golden Hawks in what was a competitive match. Laurier

went on a 10-2 run in the first quarter by driving the lane and penetrating the Lady Vees' defense. Polishchuk dug into the deficit, however, and helped Laurentian enter the second quarter down 15-13. The Lady Vees tightened defensively and forced the Golden Hawks to shoot from the perimeter. While this proved effective momentarily, Laurier began shifting the momentum with some crucial three-point shots and entered the half up 25-19. Laurentian continued to battle hard in the third quarter, and this time Devanae Bryce displayed her aggressive play en route to an eight-point night. But it was not to be for the Lady Vees as the Golden Hawks began to take control and dictate the flow of the game by controlling the rebounds and sinking three-point shots. Laurentian dropped the game 66-55 but sit fourth place in the East division.

Laurentian will hit the road to take on the Lakehead Thunderwolves and the Guelph Griffons on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 before opening up the second half of the season on Jan. 4.

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File photo

Devanae Bryce was a physical force for the Lady Vees over the weekend, racking up eight points against the Golden Hawks on Saturday, Nov. 24.

The need of superstition in sports

VICTORIA (CUP) — For centuries, athletes have dedicated their lives to sports training. What many people don't realize is that this includes their mental game as well. Legendary baseball player Yogi Berra once said, "Baseball is 90 per cent mental, and the other half is physical." Superstitions, traditions and rituals have worked their way into sports and show no signs of stopping.

From titanium lace necklaces and pump-up tunes to tattoos and pre-game snacks, athletes all around the world adhere to all kinds of weird pre-game routines. These rituals have evolved over time and can be specific to certain sports, teams or players.

Many Major League Baseball (MLB) pitchers refuse to touch the baseline on their way to and

from the dugout. No one really knows why, though some think it stems from a respect for the pristine quality of the lines before the game begins.

A perfect example of a sport ritual is the playoff beard. From late April to June, the sports channels feature more goatees, chops and moustaches than you see during lumberjack week.

Some hockey players tape their sticks the same way every game or put their skates on before their shin pads, but they certainly don't say the word "shutout" during a shutout.

Despite their tough exteriors, most athletes are very fickle individuals. From a young age, athletes find out what works and what doesn't. They figure out what food to eat on game nights and what lucky undershirt has the best winning percentage.

If an athlete remembers taking 12th Avenue before winning the big game, you will likely see them on the same road again.

As an athlete myself, I can tell you the importance of a good pre-game routine. Not only does it prepare you to play, it also makes you feel the confidence of the last time it worked. The confidence a good superstition can provide could make the difference between a win and a loss.

Vikes swimmer Ella Dalling says that, although there may not be many team-wide superstitions in swimming, there are definitely things people do before every race. For example, Dalling slaps her arms and legs before a race as many swimmers do, to keep her muscles loose. She also spits water in her goggles before every race. Sometimes there

doesn't have to be a reason why. It just has to work.

Even fans get in on the action. If your favourite team lost a heartbreaker in the finals, you certainly aren't going to that bar to watch the game again. If your team has a better record when you listen to the American broadcast, then you will be tuning into that network when your team goes to the championships. You may even have to wear the same socks for two weeks if your team is on a roll.

As we embark on another school sports season, we will inevitably run into all kinds of weird superstitions and traditions. As players and fans, we are creatures of habit and in order to keep peace of mind, we stick to those habits even if they are bizarre.

Rabey's round-up: Racism needs to be abolished from the game

BY MATT RABEY

While the sport has certainly progressed past the days of John Barnes using a back heel to kick a banana off the pitch, racism is still an ugly aspect that tarnishes the beautiful game.

In the past few weeks there have been several notable incidents where players, fans and refs have been involved in racist affairs.

The first worth mentioning is John Terry's slur against QPR defender Anton Ferdinand.

The FA found Terry guilty, yet he only received a light punishment of £220,000 (for a player making £150,000 a week) and a four-match ban.

Considering that Terry committed a hate crime in

the most public of places with countless people finding out the outcome, one would think if the FA really wanted to "Kick it out," they would, by kicking Terry out.

How many jobs do you know where someone would still remain employed that had just racially abused a colleague?

By only giving a slap on the wrist, the message conveyed is, "racism is bad, but not really that bad."

The other event that has been grabbing headlines is the infamous charge against referee Mark Clattenburg.

Clattenburg was charged with possibly making racist comments towards the Chelsea's John Obi Mikel.

The charges have recently been dropped due to a lack of evidence seeing Clattenburg return to work.

The FA statement is available on the FA's website and after reading the results of the investigation Clattenburg is undoubtedly innocent of the charges.

This is good news for Clattenburg as his job was on the line if he was found guilty.

The problem with this when stacked up against the Terry case is that Terry who was found guilty only gets a slap on the wrist whereas a lowly ref would've gotten fired. The problem with this is evident as it conveys the message, "If you're as famous as John Terry you

can get away with being racist in football, but if you aren't you will be severely punished."

This inconsistency is absolutely absurd for an association that claims to want to end racism and players like brothers Anton and Rio Ferdinand know this. The FA decided as an empty gesture to have players wear "Kick it out" t-shirts prior to games held on the weekend of Oct. 21.

The Ferdinand's as well as players on several other Premier League sides opted not to wear the shirts, as they know that the FA is only trying to put on a show and not actually solve the problem.

By refusing to wear the shirts, attention is drawn to the real

issue instead of a weak publicity stunt that makes people feel as if they are doing something when they really aren't.

Racism has no place in football just as it has no place outside of it and it takes courage to stand up and take the necessary steps to make sure it is truly "kicked out." Players who participate in racism should be thrown out of the game because when they engage in racism they are no longer participating in the game, they are destroying it.

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Intramural calling all students

BY BASKETBALL CONVENORS

It's that time of year again and the 3x3 Intramural Basketball Tournaments approach quickly. Registration begins this January 16 – 21, 2013 in the Voyageur Campus Recreation Office in the Ben Avery building. A minimum of five players per team with a charge of four dollars per person or 30 dollars max per team is required. The COED 3x3

Basketball Tournament will take place Feb. 4, the Men's Feb. 6, and the Women's Feb. 11. The tournaments will take place in gyms A and B in the Ben

Avery building and each tournament runs from 9pm – 12am. Come on out and have some fun, meet some friends, promote fitness, and give yourself the opportunity to win a variety of prizes.

You're ruining my experience

REGINA (CUP) — If there is one thing that can surely ruin my experience during a live sporting event – whether my team is winning or losing – it's the fans.

No matter what sporting event I attend, it is almost always a guarantee that I will be annoyed by at least three fans throughout the game. I'm not sure if everyone feels this way or if I just have terrible luck and always get stuck sitting next to the loud-mouthed, horn-blowing idiot who makes me wish that I was watching the game from the comfort of my own living room instead of with this jackass.

Every time I go to a game, it's like I forget how annoying the other fans can be from one time to the next. Now, every fan is relatively aggravating in one way or another – especially if they are cheering for the opposing team – but in general, there are usually three categories of fans that most people will fall into.

First off, there is the dreaded

armchair quarterback. This is the fan that thinks they know what's best for the team far better than the head coach, even though they barely know the rules of the game.

This is also the fan who thinks that they could play the game much better than the current players, even though they are roughly two and a half times their age, have beer guts easily three times larger, and the only exercise when it was announced that hotdogs were only \$2 for the next three minutes – I have never seen someone run so fast in my entire life.

These fans – though loud – are slightly tolerable, because every once in a while they will yell something so outlandish that you have to laugh.

The next category of annoying fans is the overactive small children. These kids are often seen running up and down the concrete stairs – it always amazes me that they don't wipe out – or flailing around and generally making their parent's

lives hell, not to mention everyone's lives around them.

Perhaps I should blame the idiotic parents who decided to bring their rambunctious five-year-old to the game knowing full well that their kid would only be quiet or pay attention for a maximum of one period, and that's only if they are extremely lucky or the kid is asleep.

Parents say that they want to get their kids involved in the game early and that is why they bring their kids. That's great and all but these little tykes are paying far more attention to the blimp flying around than what's going on in the game – I fucking hate that blimp.

Finally, everyone's favourite fan category, the drunks. If you are one of the drunken fans during the game then you think that everyone around you is having a riot and that everyone is finding your stupid behavior hilarious and you are, in general, the reason that everyone is having a great time.

However, if the other fans

that are around you and your drunken buddies haven't also tipped a few tall ones back, they utterly hate life right now.

I'm sure that some people are reading this and thinking, if you are lucky enough to get to go to the games live then you shouldn't be complaining. Well, I'm sorry, but these fans have ruined so many of my game experiences that I had to say something.

Also, I feel obligated to call out the old man that felt it was necessary to kiss my hand during the Pats game on Wednesday; that was out of line.

As ironic and unfortunate as it sounds, in order to deal with the armchair quarterbacks, the overactive children or, God forbid, the strange old men, you have no choice but to be the drunken fan.

LU hosts Louis Riel Day

BY TOM RENDLE

On Friday, Nov. 16, Laurentian University held its third annual commemoration of Metis hero Louis Riel.

Louis Riel is known for his involvement in the formation of the provisional government in the Red River area (now known as Manitoba), which led to the Red River rebellion of 1870. Riel only sought to maintain the rights, land and possessions that belonged to the Metis people; however the Red River rebellion resulted in the death of Thomas Scott, a man who plotted against the Provisional Government of the Red River Colony and its Legislative Assembly of

Assiniboia. The fiasco forced Riel to flee the Red River Colony and although he was elected to parliament twice he was unable to take his seat in Ottawa. In 1884, Riel was called upon to assist the Metis peoples of Saskatchewan, whose land was at risk of being taken by the Canadian government. Riel attempted to resolve the situation diplomatically to no avail and thus followed the Northwest Rebellion. Louis Riel was found guilty of high treason by the Canadian Government, punishable by death. Upon the gallows, Riel's last words were succinct and profound; "Our people will sleep for 100 years, and when they awake it will be the artists who give them

their spirit back."

The event was hosted in part by Metis Outreach Coordinator Bobbi Aubin, who delivered a speech describing in detail the accomplishments and misfortunes that Riel endured. In her speech she mentioned how Riel's final words are beginning to gather some merit as Metis artists such as Christi Belcourt, Sierra Noble, the Sault jigging troupe and Jacinthe Trudeau have helped the Metis people reclaim their heritage with pride and bring back their Michif language. In order to set things straight and assure that Riel becomes widely recognized for his heroism, Member of Parliament

Pat Martin is demanding that "Prime Minister Stephen Harper exonerate Riel and recognize him as the Father of Manitoba and a champion of the Métis people."

After the event a luncheon was held in the Parker building where people were able to sit and discuss various aspects of their culture over soup and sandwiches.

The event has shown an increase in attendees over the last three years and Aubin hopes to see an even larger turnout next year.

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Ethical case: Understanding plagiarism

BY JAMIE ROBERTSON

Jeanette hasn't ever been sure about the rules governing plagiarism. Even after looking at the University's Academic Integrity Policy she still doesn't have a sense that she understands the difference between plagiarism and paraphrasing or when a direct quotation is needed. Instead, the rules she has encountered regarding citing sources seem convoluted and irrelevant to her class assignments. So, she just tries to do what her professors ask of her to stay out of trouble. As so often happens, she has hit a stumbling block in the paper she is writing. Her professor told her that, if she found three or more words taken directly from a source without quotations, students would be suspected of plagiarism. Jeanette wants to use the words 'it does not' in her description of her source's position, but these words appear in the section she is explaining. Should Jeanette use 'it does not' without employing a direct quotation?

There are three main ways to approach ethical questions in Western philosophy: consequence-based (Consequentialism), duty-based (Deontological Ethics), and virtue-based (Virtue Ethics) (Collier & Haliburton, 2011). These approaches are employed in the discussion below.

If we understand consequentialism as acting to try to achieve the best outcome, then it is clear that Jeanette should probably just use a direct quotation and move on. This is

because it achieves her objective of staying out of trouble (the penalty for over-quoting is much less severe) and saves her professor and the University the extra work and trouble of a disciplinary hearing. However, it leaves Jeanette without an understanding of what she is supposed to do and why, apart from its convenience in this particular case.

The benefit of the duty-based approach is that it lets us see that the whole question of whether or not to cite and how is produced by her role as a university student. These are special rules established by the academic community that apply to all university students who expect credit or degrees. Degrees and credits are proof of knowledge, and knowledge can only be demonstrated if the rules of academic integrity are followed. Otherwise, no distinction can be made between what has been learned, what has been copied, and what has been created (Fillion and Robertson, 2012). Jeanette's professor has outlined a three-word rule, and as such,

has concretely defined her ethical duties. By using a direct quote, Jeanette would be doing her duty. However these duties still remain separate from her own motives and separate from her identity as a community member.

The perspective of virtue ethics erases these distinctions. It might say that fulfilling the standards of academic integrity is part of being a good academic. Not 'part' in the sense of some sub-set of the required skills, but 'part' meaning an intrinsic feature or quality. As Jeanette internalizes her role as an academic, she will see academic standards of conduct in a new way. Academics participate in the massive collective effort that is the production and systematization of knowledge. Part of this activity involves synthesizing the ideas of others in order to generate your own conclusions. Citing permits communication of important information in this context. First, it allows readers to clearly see the author's contribution to the body of information on a particular subject,

while acknowledging the work acting as the foundation for the contribution (Fillion and Robertson, 2012). Second, it refers readers to further sources of information so that they can easily search for more details or enquire into the author's interpretation (Fillion and Robertson, 2012). Her practice is not restricted by the rules of academic integrity. Rather, academic integrity is what she is doing when she is doing her work well.

So, responding to Jeanette's uncertainty about citations becomes a matter of interpreting the spirit of both the rule put forward by her professor and the standards put forward by the academic community. The professor is probably trying to help her students be aware of and avoid plagiarism. Her intention is not to restrict the order in which students use common words. The restriction has to do primarily with the academic values of recognizing the contributions of others and of not claiming others' work as your own. In which case, the context becomes relevant. If 'it does not' is a central part of the contribution that the source is making and is a particularly clear or technical way of expressing this contribution, it deserves to be quoted. Beyond that, a citation is necessary simply because Jeanette is drawing on someone else's work.

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Column: The failure of grades in Canada

BY ANDY VEILLEUX

Grades are an enigma that are at once subjective, but taken as objective.

Students are A students, B students, or failures, assigned a number just like D-503, and the number defines their academic, and potentially their actual career.

Without getting too deep into totalitarian debates a la We, grades are a significant part of a student's life, even though they can be as unceremoniously and unscrupulously assigned as player rankings in NHL 13.

The debate over grades ranges from those who argue they should be abolished to arguments about what kind of grades are best – from letters, to GPA to pass or fail.

On the surface, it looks like all things grades are open for discussion and dissection, but that is not the reality of the situation.

The more shadowy side of grades has been seen in a number of ways lately, and they have to do with grading on a macro level.

A few weeks back, it came out that a student was suing Concordia University for giving him a B-plus instead of an A-minus.

William Groombridge, the 41-year old student in question, is suing the school, because he had his grade adjusted to meet a grade quota.

The professor of the course gave out more A's than the school's quota, and dropped Groombridge's mark to a B-plus accordingly, a Toronto Star article says.

The idea that there are grade quotas helps demonstrate the subjectivity of marks.

A professor at one of these institutions may have a class full of bright students, where 50 per cent deserve an A, but the quota would relegate 25 per cent of those students down to a B.

Conversely, a professor may have barely any students worthy of an A, but may be pressured to give out a certain amount of A's given out.

This is a simplistic look at grade quotas, but it is a real issue.

Someone who has a B-plus average may have deserved an A, but the conditions around them may limit them to a B-plus.

An A student may have not quite been an A student, but they may have had professors who felt an attachment to them, or they may have benefited from a school's quota.

In either of these cases, the grade of the student is not reflective of their ability. It's a loose reflection of how they are as a student.

The concept of ranking universities for how they grade is top-of-mind for Carleton University, and surely among all Canadian universities, after the Ottawa Citizen filed a Freedom of Information request against Carleton.

The FOI request was seeking information about the grades that Carleton gives out for an article about possible grade inflation over the last decade or so.

Carleton is fighting the FOI request tooth and nail, arguing that revealing their grades has the potential to change their reputation, among other things.

Carleton's fear is that they may be seen as an "easy school," according to an Ottawa Citizen article, if that is what the grades show.

The University of Ottawa also denied a similar request from the paper.

It is common for students to discuss which professors are easy, and which courses are "bird courses," but in all my years as a student at universities and colleges I have never heard anyone refer to a school as "easy."

My experience is significant, having come from the front-line of university competition in Ontario, where everything from party lifestyle and female-to-male ratio to reputation and funding are discussed.

The problem of grade inflation being investigated by the Citizen does not just stop at universities. High schools are being accused of major grade inflation.

A University of Saskatchewan study revealed that Canadian provinces, aside from Alberta, regularly saw their high school students have a grade drop in the range of around 19.6 points when they entered first-year. Albertan high-schoolers had drops around 6.4 points, which is great for the students who did well in high school but a detriment to others.

The students with entry grades high enough for university do better once they get there, but some are having more difficulty getting in.

Some universities, such as the University of British Columbia, have begun having students submit a personal profile along with their grades, because grade inflation and competition has intensified.

Graduate schools have extra requirements beyond grades and it is profound statement that undergraduate admission is moving towards personal statements.

Grades are not to be trusted on their own. I've seen 90 per cent students bomb out of universities, and low 70 per cent students flourish once they get into a master's degree. Grades are subjective, and like sports, intangibles are important.

Some students go through as 90 per cent students all the way through their PhD even, but are horrible teachers and researchers, while some of the best professors only have their master's degree.

So what is it that the marks are based on?

It certainly isn't a student's ability to demonstrate what they have learned, or be able to relay it to others. It is not the student's ability to conduct research, as any publications or conferences they complete are usually not tied into marks.

In the end, grading is a smoke and mirrors deception of the highest order.

Professors know it, students know it, and anybody who takes the time to seriously consider the topic does as well.

Of course, professors

probably won't spend much time acknowledging it, or they risk being Denis Rancourt-ed out of their esteemed positions, because not even tenure can protect them from bashing the totalitarian regime that is grading.

To say it is totalitarian may be harsh, but there isn't much healthy debate over the subject.

In the five years since I wrote a major feature piece on alternative grading schemes, which featured Rancourt, who was freshly fighting

his dismissal from the University of Ottawa, nothing has changed.

If anything, the way Rancourt has been pushed out of his job, and bullied by administration, has served as a stark reminder that nothing can protect you from airing some unpopular opinions.

It is clear the current grading landscape in the Canadian education system receives a failing grade of its own.



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Smith shares story to inspire students

BY WILLIE POLL

Shayne Smith, a Canada Games alumnus and member of the Canadian National Wheelchair Basketball team, visited Laurentian University on Nov. 13 to tell students his story of perseverance.

Smith not only dealt with the obstacles of being in a wheelchair, but also never had a father figure in his life, and began selling coke, ecstasy, and marijuana at the age of 14.

“So you’re listening to an ex-drug dealer, big deal,” Smith said. “Well, hopefully I can inspire you to understand that really the only thing stopping you in life from achieving your goals is yourself.”

Smith had always had a passion for basketball, and never understood why he “couldn’t be like Allen Iverson.” It took him

four years to score his first basket. “I didn’t give up,” Smith said. “I kept going, I kept trying, I didn’t quit. What’s the point of quitting? I didn’t understand it then, and I still don’t understand it.”

Smith made the Ontario Junior team, as well as the Canadian Junior team, which represent the top players under the age of 23. Smith, at the time, was only 15. The next youngest player was 19.

“I was a long way from the kid who sucked,” Smith said. “All because I persevered.”

Smith had been an active marijuana user, as well as a great basketball player, but after making Team Canada, he had to choose.

“A day in the life of Shayne in Grade 10,” Smith said. “Mom gets in the shower, smoke a joint, go to school. Smoke a joint before first, go to first, smoke a joint during

second so I would be hungry for lunch, go to third, skip fourth to smoke with my boys one last time, go to fifth, fall asleep, wake up, get on the bus. Before mommy got home smoke a joint so I would be hungry for dinner, mom would go to bed, smoke another joint before bed. (That was) almost every day for me in Grade 10, then one day I was posed with the question, weed or basketball? I had to pick one because once you made Team Canada you’re getting tested, and I chose basketball and stopped smoking weed.”

Smith woke up one day and realized that he was ready to help and inspire others. He realized that he was “ready to change the world” which he hopes to do, one presentation at a time.



Photo by Veronyk Wilson

Shayne Smith visited LU on Nov. 13 to inspire students with his story.

Cortical column: The role of glial cells

BY LUCAS TESSARO

The last two Cortical Columns focussed on the primary cellular component of the nervous system – the neuron itself and the connections between other neurons (synapses). In this issue I am turning my attention towards the oft forgotten neuronal assistants, the glial cells. Derived from the Greek word for glue, the neuroglia are commonly held to have four main functions: to support and hold neurons in place, to supply nutrients and oxygen, insulation of neurons from each other, and to destroy pathogens, remove dead neurons and other biological waste.

Since their discovery by Rudolf Virchow in 1846, it was long thought that neuroglia played no role in neurotransmission, that is their existence was one merely of support and maintenance of the nervous system. This concept has long since been overturned, with more evidence indicating their role in synaptic transmission through numerous mechanisms such as regulation of the clearance of neurotransmitters from the cleft, the release of special gliotransmitters which alter and modulate regular synaptic function, and recent experiments

suggest that they are capable of chemical transmission directly with neurons themselves.

These new developments in neurohistology have led to the development of the “Paraneuron Hypothesis”. Given the vast interconnectivity between neurons and non-neuronal cells, it is becoming more difficult to distinguish between these cells based solely on function alone. In addition, other related non-nervous system cells (such as mast cells) are found throughout the body and the nervous system with similar if not identical functions. Serotonin, although having a main function within the brain, elicits effects throughout the body. Simply put, the pre-conceived notion that the nervous system is a separate entity from the rest of the body is losing validity as our understanding of histology grows.

As an undergrad, I was actually surprised at some of the basic numbers involving glial cells. Within the average human brain, for instance, there are around 5-10x more glial cells than neurons per mm³ of brain tissue – a ratio which increases with neurological pathologies. Electromicroscopic investigations have determined that whenever a neuron is not

synapsed with another neuron they are enveloped in the processes of cell bodies of glial cells. This discovery is what led to the first postulations that glial cells must be involved with synaptic transmission, as you may recall from my previous column(s) if a neuron lacks input, they die.

The vast interconnectivity of glial cells is referred to as the syncytium, through which the glial cells communicate with one another through gap junctions – specialized intercellular membrane connections which essentially unify the cytoplasm of one cell to another. The syncytium acts as a potassium buffer for the cells against the extracellular fluid. What does potassium have to do with anything? The alteration of this singular ion has far-ranging effects throughout the central nervous system if it is not properly maintained. For example, a chronic disruption of the potassium levels can lead to an electrical focus – often the origin of continual, uncontrolled electrical discharges that culminate in seizures.

The syncytium is slightly less pronounced in the peripheral nervous system, as the role of glial cells is somewhat substituted by Schwann cells – insulation,

nutrition – albeit with one major difference. Schwann cells, through the production of myelin, actually promote the formation of new axonal connections in the case of injury. Within the central nervous system, the glial cells prevent any sort of injury repair as seen in the peripheral system – hence why a severed finger can be restored, but paralysis is permanent.

Perhaps surprisingly, considering the relative simplicity of neurons, is the fact that there are different types of glial cells as well. Astroglia (so named for their stellate-shape) are either protoplasmic (grey matter) or fibrous (white matter) and serve as the primary interface between neurons and the blood supply. When thinking of the famous “blood brain barrier”, what is essentially being discussed is are the astroglia themselves. For those unfamiliar with the term, the BBB in reality is the narrowing of blood capillaries from 10nm to 1nm in diameter, severely limiting the flow but concomitantly allowing highly selective permeability between brain-blood circulation and body-blood circulation.

Oligodendroglia are smaller than astroglia and are found in larger numbers within the

peripheral nervous system. Unique to oligodendroglia is their involvement with the formation of myelin, as well as an apparent pulsatile movement associated with the modulation of action potentials. It is also believed that they are responsible for many of the metabolic activities of cells within the peripheral nervous system. Lastly, there are microglia which as their name implies are the smallest of the three. While histologically different, they have fewer functions than the other two – mainly being the phagocytosis of deteriorating myelin and other macromolecules.

The above material is the best balance of detail and general information regarding glial cells that can be provided within this column of space. Given the ever-changing nature of science, especially with regards to glial cells, previous beliefs may prove incorrect after further experimentation. However, this entire column can be summarized as such – glial cells are more than just the caretakers of neuronal cells, they are active members of synaptic transmission, and ultimately consciousness.



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